THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Deployment of additional I.A.C. coaches on Andhra Pradesh Express and Tamil Nadu Express is not feasible for want of traffic and room on these trains. However, with the increase in the frequency of Madras and Bangalore Rajdhanis from Weekly to bi-weekly the availability of upper class accommodation has considerably increased on New Delhi-Madras and New Delhi-Secunderabad sectors.

Experiment of Bio-Toilets in Railways

3784. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experiment of Bio-Toilets has been successful in the Railways;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) the measures taken to prevent the bad smell;

(d) whether there were any complaints in this regard; and

(e) by when will these be applied on large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An indigenous design 'Bio-Toil' was developed by Integral Coach Factory, Madras which was fitted on 10 AC coaches on trial. These coaches are running successfully on GT/Tamil Nadu Express, Alleppy Express & Mangalore Mail since Feb. 1996.

(c) and (d) Two minor modifications were made to overcome complaints of bad smell. (1) use of trouble free AC exhaust fan in place of earlier DC fans and (2) extension of vent pipe up-to roof level.

(e) The design is ready for large scale implementation but success of its use so that they do not choke up and damage the bacterial bed provided in the bio-tank with non-biodegradable waste. The system will, therefore, be extended slowly. As the first step, two rakes of Cheran Express and Kovai Express of Southern Railway have been selected for extension of bio-toilets.

भरूच - दहेडा रेल लाइन का आमान परिवर्तन

3785. **श्री अहमद पटेल:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार जनता और उद्योग-जगत की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए गुजरात में भरूच - दहेडा रेल लाइन के आमान परिवर्तन के लिए क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) इस रेल लाइन को बड़ी लाइन में कब तक परिवर्तित कर दिए जाने का प्रस्ताव है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) और (ख) सर्वेक्षण के आदेश दिये गये हैं। सर्वेक्षण का परिणाम प्राप्त होने के बाद परियोजना पर आगे विचार करना संभव होगा।

मंदार हिल्स रेल लाइन का बिछाया जाना

3786. **श्री जर्नादन यादव:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दुमका के रास्ते भागलपुर से रामपुर तक की मंदार हिल्स रेल लाइन को बिछाने के कार्य को स्वीकृति दे दी गई है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस परियोजना को शुरू करने के लिए पिछली सरकार ने 110 करोड़ रुपये की स्वीकृति भी दी थी; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भागों के उत्तर "हां" हों तो इस कार्य को कब तक पूरा कर लिए जाने की संभावना है; और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) भागलपुर से मंदार हिल्स तक एक रेल लाइन पहले से ही मौजूद है। दुमका के रास्ते मंदार हिल्स से रामपुर तक एक नयी रेलवे लाइन का निर्माण कार्य 170 करोड़ रु० की लागत से शुरू किया गया है।

(ख) जी नहीं। परियोजना को स्वीकृत किए जाने के बाद से विभिन्न वर्षों के बजटों में इसके लिए परिव्यय निम्नानुसार है।

94-95	10 लाख रु०
95-96	2 करोड़ रु०
96-97	1.15 करोड़ रु०
97-98	5 करोड़ रु०

(ग) अन्तिम स्थान निर्धारण सर्वेक्षण का कार्य पूरा हो चुका है। राज्य सरकर द्वारा भूमि को अधिग्रहण कर उपलब्ध कराने के बाद निर्माण कार्य शुरू कर दिया जाएगा।

Out Come of the 'Keep Stations Clean' Scheme

3787. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the 'keep stations clean' scheme undertaken last year;

(b) whether the stations have again become unclean; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to keep the stations clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) During the last cleanliness drive held between 1.1.96 and 31.3.96, repairs of approximately 4,500 toilets were undertaken, over 13,500 dustbins were provided, travelling safaiwalas in 285 trains were provided and about 1,000 vacancies of safaiwalas were filled up etc. Consequently, the cleanliness at the stations and in trains improved considerably Zonal Railways have been advised to ensure that results achieved during the Cleanliness Drive are maintained.

Moreover, Special Cells for monitoring complaints/suggestions relating to passenger amenities and cleanliness have also been set up at Divisional, Zonal Headquarters Offices and also in the Ministry of Railways. This aspect is being closely monitored by officers on day-to-day basis.

Issuance of Railway passes to the Spouses of the Arjuna Awardees

3788. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) wfhether the All India Railway Card passes to the spouses of the Arjuna Awardees have been issued;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether holders of such Passes have been permitted to travel in trains like Rajdhani Express and Shatabdi Express; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Representation of Railway Bridge at Godavari River

3789. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a detailed representation recently on the preservation of the Original Railway Bridge over river Godavari at Kovvur-Rajahmundry in South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details of this representation;

(c) whether the Railways are studying this representation; and

(d) the steps proposed to study this detailed and specific representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation has been received from Dr. Pentapati Pullarao, an Economist, requesting for preserving the